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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please enter new claims 38-53 as follows:

- 1. (Previously Amended) A security system reader comprising:
- a transceiver that transmits a stimulus signal and that receives a signal containing an authentication code; and,
- a processor that determines whether the received authentication code is from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob, and that performs an authentication of the authentication code dependent upon whether the authentication code is from the badge or from the fingerprint keyfob, wherein the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a digitized fingerprint signature and a rolling identifier, and wherein the processor is arranged to perform an authentication of the authentication code based upon both the digitized fingerprint signature and the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob.
- 2. (Previously Amended) The security system reader of claim 1 wherein the processor merges the digitized fingerprint signature with the rolling identifier to form the authentication code.
- 3. (Previously Amended) The security system reader of claim 1 wherein the rolling identifier is provided by a rolling identifier generator.
- 4. (Previously Amended) The security system reader of claim 2 wherein the processor supplies the authentication code to the transceiver, which causes the authentication code to be transmitted in an RF signal.

Page 2 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564

- 5. (Previously Amended) The security system reader of claim 2 wherein the processor compares the digitized fingerprint signature to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint signatures and also compares the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to an identifier maintained by the processor.
- 6. (Previously Amended) The security system reader of claim 5 wherein the processor compares the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a rolling identifier maintained by the processor and wherein the rolling identifier is randomly or pseudorandomly generated periodically by the rolling identifier generator.
- 7. (Previously Amended) A method of providing access comprising:

receiving a signal containing an authentication code; determining whether the authentication code is from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob;

determining whether the authentication code is authentic dependent upon whether the authentication code is from the badge or from the fingerprint keyfob; and,

If the authentication code is authentic, permitting access, wherein the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises determining whether both the fingerprint signature and the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob are authentic.

- 8. (Previously Cancelled)
- 9. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier.

Page 3 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564

- 10. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the fingerprint signature comprises a digitized fingerprint signature.
- 11. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises: comparing the fingerprint signature to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint signatures; and, comparing the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately maintained identifier.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately maintained identifier comprises comparing the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately generated rolling identifier.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code.
- 14. (Previously Amended) A method of providing access comprising:

receiving a signal containing an authentication code;

determining whether the authentication code is from a badge or a keyfob;

determining whether the authentication code is authentic; and, if the

authentication code is authentic, permitting access to a function or process; and

transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code, wherein the

Page 4 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564 authentication code from the keyfob comprises first and second portions, wherein the first and second portions are different types of codes, and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises determining whether both the first and second portions are authentic and wherein the first portion comprises a rolling identifier.

- 15. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 14 further comprising providing a rolling identifier generator that generates the rolling identifier.
- 16. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the rolling identifier comprises a code that is randomly or pseudorandomly generated by the rolling identifier generator.
- 17. (Previously Cancelled)
- 18. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic further comprises:

comparing the first portion to a list; and, comparing the second portion to a separately maintained code.

- 19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the second portion comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the second portion to a separately maintained code comprises comparing the rolling identifier to a separately generated rolling identifier.
- 20. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the authentication code from the keyfob comprises a digitized fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises

Page 5 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564 determining whether both the digitized fingerprint signature and the identifier are authentic.

- 21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob comprises a rolling identifier.
- 22. (Previously Cancelled)
- 23. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises:

comparing the fingerprint signature to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint signatures; and,

comparing the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob to a separately maintained identifier.

- 24. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob to a separately maintained identifier comprises comparing the rolling identifier to a separately generated rolling identifier.
- 25. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 17 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is from a badge or a keyfob comprises determining whether the authentication code is from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob.
- 26. (Previously Amended) A method of providing access comprising: receiving an RF signal containing an authentication code;

Page 6 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564 determining whether the authentication code is of a first type or of a second different type;

processing the authentication code in a first manner if the authentication code is of the first type and processing the authentication code in a second different manner if the authentication code is of the second different type <u>in order</u> to determine whether the authentication code is authentic; and,

if the authentication code is authentic, permitting access.

- 27. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 26 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is of a first type or of a second different type comprises determining whether the authentication code comprises a pre-stored authentication code.
- 28. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 26 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is of a first type or of a second different type comprises determining whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a physical characteristic of a human user.
- 29. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 28 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a physical characteristic of a human user comprises determining whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a fingerprint of a human user.
- 30. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 26 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is of a first type or of a second different type comprises determining whether the authentication code is a pre-stored authentication code or an authentication code derived from a physical characteristic of a human user.

Page 7 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564

- 31. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 30 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a physical characteristic of a human user comprises determining whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a fingerprint of a human user.
- 32. (Previously Submitted) A method for authenticating a user, comprising:

analyzing at least one RF signal containing an authentication code to determine whether the authentication code is derived from a keyfob or of a badge;

processing the authentication code in a first manner if the authentication code is derived from the keyfob and constitutes a keyfob authentication code comprising a digitized fingerprint signature, in order to determine whether or not the authentication code is authentic; and

processing the authentication code in a second and different manner if the authentication code is derived from the badge and constitutes a badge authentication code, in order to determine whether or not the authentication code is authentic, and thereby grant a user access, if the authentication code is authentic.

- 33. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 32 further comprising determining if the keyfob authentication code derives from the keyfob in order to process the authentication code in the first manner.
- 34. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 32 further comprising determining if said badge authentication code derives from the badge in order to process the authentication code in the second and different manner.
- 35. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 32 wherein processing the authentication code in a first manner if the authentication code is derived from the

Page 8 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564 keyfob and constitutes a keyfob authentication code comprising a digitized fingerprint signature, in order to determine whether or not the authentication code is authentic, further comprises:

comparing the digitized fingerprint signature of the keyfob authentication code to a list of authentic digitized fingerprint signatures; and

additionally comparing a rolling identifier associated with the keyfob authentication code to a rolling identifier synchronously maintained by a processor that determines if the digitized fingerprint signature of the keyfob authentication code matches at least one digitized fingerprint signature from among the list of authentic digitized fingerprint signatures; and

determining if the rolling identifier of the keyfob authentication code matches the rolling identifier maintained by the processor.

- 36. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 32 wherein the keyfob authentication code is stored in a memory associated with the keyfob.
- 37. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 36 wherein the keyfob and the badge are contained within a single integrated device.
- 38. (New) An access control system, comprising:

an access device; and

- a plurality of authorization modules in association with said access device, wherein at least one of said plurality of authorization modules receives data from a user in order to authorize said user to utilize said access device, wherein said data is generated by said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules.
- 39. (New) The system of claim 38 further comprising a processor in communication with said plurality of authorization modules, wherein said processor processes said

Page 9 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564

data received from said user based on an indication of whether said data received from said user is authentic in order to permit said user to access an area or information utilizing said access device.

- 40. The system of claim 38 wherein sald access device comprises a door lock.
- 41. The system of claim 40 wherein said door lock comprises a stand alone push button lock that utilizes an authentication code to activate said stand alone push button lock, wherein said authentication code is changeable utilizing said processor.
- 42. The system of claim 38 wherein said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules comprises a keyfob.
- 43. The system of claim 42 wherein said keyfob comprises a fingerprint keyfob.
- 44. The system of claim 38 wherein said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules comprises a card reader.
- 45. The system of claim 38 wherein said data is generated by said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules based on a shared and indexed mathematical function that prevents authorizing of said data, if said data is not authorized based on a particular sequence with respect to said shared and indexed mathematical function.
- 46. (New) An access control method, comprising:

providing an access device;

associating a plurality of authorization modules with said access device; and

Page 10 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564

authorizing a user to utilize said access device based on data received by said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules, wherein said data is generated by said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules.

- 47. (New) The method of claim 46further comprising providing a processor in communication with said plurality of authorization modules, wherein said processor processes said data received from said user based on an indication of whether said data received from said user is authentic in order to permit said user to access an area or information utilizing said access device.
- 48. The method of claim 46 wherein said access device comprises a door lock.
- 49. The method of claim 48 wherein said door lock comprises a stand alone push button lock that utilizes an authentication code to activate said stand alone push button lock, wherein said authentication code is changeable utilizing said processor.
- 50. The method of claim 46 wherein said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules comprises a keyfob.
- 51. The method of claim 50 wherein said keyfob comprises a fingerprint keyfob.
- 52. The method of claim 46 wherein said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules comprises a card reader.
- 53. The method of claim 46 wherein said data is generated by said at least one of said plurality of authorization modules based on a shared and indexed mathematical function that prevents authorizing of said data, if said data is not authorized based

Page 11 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564

on a particular sequence with respect to said shared and indexed mathematical function.

Page 12 of 13 SERIAL NO. 10/728,564